

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/537,001  
Supplemental Preliminary Amendment and Response  
to Restriction Requirement and Election of Species  
Requirement dated July 14, 2006  
Reply to Office Action dated May 16, 2006

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) ~~The agent of claim 1~~ An agent for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the agent inhibits the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene.

27. (Currently amended) The agent of claim 1 ~~+~~ 26, wherein the agent inhibits the binding of Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) to the gene product of APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli).

28. (Currently amended) The agent of claim 1 ~~+~~ 26, wherein the agent inhibits the guanine nucleotide exchange factor activity of Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor).

29. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises inhibiting the function of Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) and/or inhibits the expression of the Asef gene.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the method comprises inhibiting the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the method comprises inhibiting the binding of Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) to the gene product of APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli).

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32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the method comprises inhibiting the guanine nucleotide exchange factor activity of Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor).

33. (Currently amended) An agent for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the agent inhibits the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene or ~~APC (Adenomatous Polypsis Coli)~~ gene by the RNA interference on the expression of the gene.

34. (Currently amended) The agent of claim 33, wherein the agent comprises an oligonucleotide that exhibits an RNA interference effect on the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene or ~~APC (Adenomatous Polypsis Coli)~~ gene.

35. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises inhibiting the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene or APC (Adenomatous Polypsis Coli) gene by the RNA interference on the expression of the gene.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the method comprises using an oligonucleotide that exhibits an RNA interference effect on the expression of the Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor) gene or APC (Adenomatous Polypsis Coli) gene.

37. (Currently amended) An oligonucleotide having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, or 4 in the sequence listing.

38. (Currently amended) An agent for inhibiting Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide

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exchange factor), wherein the agent comprises an oligonucleotide of claim 37, having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~or 3~~ in the sequence listing.

39. (Previously presented) An agent for inhibiting APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli), wherein the agent comprises an oligonucleotide of claim 37, having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 in the sequence listing.

40. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting Asef (APC-stimulated guanine nucleotide exchange factor), wherein the method comprises using an oligonucleotide of claim 37, having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3 in the sequence listing.

41. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting APC (Adenomatous Polyposis Coli), wherein the method comprises using an oligonucleotide of claim 37, having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 in the sequence listing.

42. (Previously presented) The agent of claim 34, wherein the oligonucleotide has the nucleotide sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOS: 1 to 4 in the sequence listing.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the oligonucleotide has the nucleotide sequence set forth in any one of SEQ ID NOS: 1 to 4 in the sequence listing.

45. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim 38.

46. (Currently amended) A method for preventing and/or treating colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim ~~4~~ 26.

47. (Previously presented) A method for preventing and/or treating colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim 38.

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48. (Previously presented) An agent for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the agent comprises the agent of claim 39.
49. (Previously presented) A method for inhibiting metastasis of colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim 39.
50. (Previously presented) A method for preventing and/or treating colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim 33.
51. (Previously presented) A method for preventing and/or treating colorectal cancer, wherein the method comprises using the agent of claim 39.